1. (previously presented) A method for handling location information regarding a mobile user having a plurality of associated location sources, said method comprising

simultaneously acquiring items of location data regarding said user from said plurality of location sources;

creating a collection of said location data regarding said user;

determining an expected most accurate location source of said plurality of associated location sources;

ranking items of location data in said collection to define the location of said user according to the expected most accurate location source of said plurality of associated location sources; and

updating said location data continuously with said defined location of said user.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising: filtering said location data to remove misleading data.

3. (cancelled).

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein: said acquiring further comprises acquiring location data regarding more than one user, and said ranking further comprises ranking items in said collections regarding more than one user, according to the expected most accurate location source of each of said plurality of associated location sources for each of said users.

5-6. (cancelled).

7. (previously presented) A method for handling location information regarding a mobile user having a plurality of associated location sources, said method comprising:

simultaneously acquiring items of location data regarding said user from said plurality of location sources;

ranking items of location data in a collection of said location data regarding said mobile user according to an expected most accurate location source of said plurality of associated location sources; and

updating said location data continuously.

8. (original) The method of claim 7 further comprising: filtering said location data to remove misleading data.

9-36. (cancelled).

37. (new) A system for handling location information regarding a mobile user having a plurality of associated location sources, the system comprising:

a processor;

a computer memory holding computer program instructions which when executed by the processor perform the method comprising:

simultaneously acquiring items of location data regarding said user from said plurality of location sources;

creating a collection of said location data regarding said user;

determining an expected most accurate location source of said plurality of associated location sources;

ranking items of location data in said collection to define the location of said user according to the expected most accurate location source of said plurality of associated location sources; and

updating said location data continuously with said defined location of said user.

38. (new) The system of claim 37 wherein the performed method further includes:

filtering said location data to remove misleading data.

38. (new) The system of claim 37 wherein:

said acquiring in the performed method further comprises acquiring location data regarding more than one user, and

said ranking in the performed method further comprises ranking items in said collections regarding more than one user, according to the expected most accurate location source of each of said plurality of associated location sources for each of said users.

40. (new) A system for handling location information regarding a mobile user having a plurality of associated location sources, the system comprising:

a processor;

a computer memory holding computer program instructions which when executed by the processor perform the method comprising:

simultaneously acquiring items of location data regarding said user from said plurality of location sources;

ranking items of location data in a collection of said location data regarding said mobile user according to an expected most accurate location source of said plurality of associated location sources; and

updating said location data continuously.

41. (new) The system of claim 40 wherein the performed method further includes filtering said location data to remove misleading data.

42. (new) A computer usable medium having stored thereon, a computer program for handling location information regarding a mobile user having a plurality of associated location sources, wherein the computer program when executed on a computer causes the computer to:

simultaneously acquire items of location data regarding said user from said plurality of location sources;

create a collection of said location data regarding said user;

determine an expected most accurate location source of said plurality of associated location sources;

rank items of location data in said collection to define the location of said user according to the expected most accurate location source of said plurality of associated location sources; and

update said location data continuously with said defined location of said user.

43. (new) The computer usable medium of claim 42 wherein said computer program when executed further causes the computer to filter said location data to remove misleading data.

44. (new) The computer usable medium of claim 42 wherein, said computer program when executed further causes the computer to:

acquire location data regarding more than one user, and

rank items in said collections regarding more than one user, according to the expected most accurate location source of each of said plurality of associated location sources for each of said users.

REMARKS

Since the Final Rejection, of Claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 13, 14, 16, 19, 20, 25, 26, and 28 has been reversed by the Decision of the Board of Appeals dated November 3, 2009, these claims have been held to be allowable.

However, Applicants take note that since the filing date of the present Application on January 31, 2001, the standards and requirements of the United States Patent Office, with respect to statutory subject matter under 35 USC 101 on A) system means plus function claims involving

programs, and B) claims covering computer programs have changed. Accordingly, in order to more closely conform to the Patent Office general requirements for statutory subject matter under 35 USC 101, the following changes have been made:

- A) Allowed Claims 13, 14, 16, 19, and 20 covering the system have been cancelled and replaced by corresponding new claims 37-41; and

- B) Allowed Claims 25, 26, and 28 covering computer programs have been cancelled and replaced by corresponding new claims 42-44.

A) New Claims 37-41 covering the system are Statutory Subject Matter Under 35 USC 101

While original claims 13, 14, 16, 19, and 20 have not been rejected as non-statutory under 35 USC 101, the U. S. Patent Office has been taking the position that means plus function system claims such as claims 13, 14, 16, 19, and 20 actually define elements which may implemented in software which are thus considered non-statutory subject matter. New claims 37-41 which respectively correspond to cancelled claims 13, 14, 16, 19, and 20 are more consistent with the U. S. Patent Office position. Claims 37-41 read upon a tangible structure: a system for handling location information regarding a mobile user having a plurality of associated location sources, including a processor and a computer memory holding a computer program which when